

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 222970

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222970

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. KUWAIT IN A FOUR-YEAR TRANSITION?

THE AMIR NAMED A NEW CABINET ON SEPTEMBER 6 WHICH ANTICLI-  
MATICALLY RETURNS ALL PREVIOUS MINISTERS. THE GOK HAS ALSO  
SHUT DOWN TWO MORE LOCAL PUBLICATIONS, BRINGING THE TOTAL  
TO FIVE. EMBASSY KUWAIT FORESEES A POLITICAL TRANSITION  
LASTING UP TO FOUR YEARS, IN WHICH:

--CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION WILL REDUCE THE POWER OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO DELAY LEGISLATION AND TO CRITI-  
CIZE THE CABINET.

--THE CABINET IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE CONSIDERABLE  
SOCIAL WELFARE LEGISLATION BY DECREE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 222970

--THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MAY REMAIN SUSPENDED FOR TWO

YEARS OR MORE, BUT WILL PROBABLY BE REESTABLISHED AS POPULAR PRESSURE FOR A RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT GROWS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE LACK OF PUBLIC OPPOSITION TO THE AMIR'S DECREES INDICATES MANY KUWAITIS DO NOT OPPOSE A SHIFT OF LEGISLATIVE POWER TOWARD THE CABINET OR TOWARD KUWAIT'S TRADITIONAL COLLECTIVE EXECUTIVE, THE SABAH FAMILY. (CONFIDENTIAL) KUWAIT 4265, 4268 AND 4281, 9/8.)

## 2. CYPRUS: MAKARIOS DEFINITELY UP AND CLERIDES MAYBE OUT

THE CLEAN SWEEP OF THE PRO-MAKARIOS "POPULAR FRONT" IN SUNDAY'S ELECTIONS IS SEEN BY EMBASSY NICOSIA AS A RALLYING TO MAKARIOS AS THE GREEK CYPRIOT LEADER RATHER THAN VOTER SUPPORT FOR ANY PARTICULAR ISSUE. THE EMBASSY COMMENTS:

--THE VICTORY ATTESTS TO THE ARCHBISHOP'S CONTINUING ABILITY TO CONTROL THE GREEK CYPRIOT POLITICAL SCENE, ALTHOUGH HIS IMAGE AS AN UNCHALLENGED LEADER HAS BEEN TARNISHED.

--BY FAILING TO WIN ANY SEATS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CLERIDES HAS LOST PERSONAL PRESTIGE AND HIS MAJOR POLITICAL PLATFORM.

--THE STRONG VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FOR MAKARIOS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE "LONG STRUGGLE" WILL LIKELY HURT PROSPECTS FOR THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. (CONFIDENTIAL) NICOSIA 2723, 9/8.)

## 3. LIBYA PRESSURING TURKEY ON ISTANBUL TERRORISTS?

AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN IN ISTANBUL TOLD THE CONSULATE THAT LIBYA IS DELAYING CRUDE OIL SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY AND SPECULATED THAT LIBYA IS TRYING TO PRESSURE THE GOT TO BE GENTLE WITH THE ISTANBUL AIRPORT TERRORISTS.

CONGEN COMMENT: WE CANNOT DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY THE LIBYANS ARE RESORTING TO THIS TACTIC TO INFLUENCE TURKISH  
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PAGE 03 STATE 222970

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, GIVEN THE DEPENDENCE OF THE ISTANBUL AREA ON LIBYAN CRUDE AND THE LIBYAN CONNECTION OF THE HIJACKERS. (CONFIDENTIAL) ISTANBUL 3485, 9/8.)

## 4. CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILLING TO ELIMINATE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

EMBASSY PRAGUE HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THE GOC IS WILLING TO PROCEED WITH DISCUSSIONS LEAD-

ING TO A RECIPROCAL ELIMINATION OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS.  
THE FONMIN OFFICIAL, ZANTOVSKY, SAID THE GOC VIEWED THE US  
DRAFT TEXT AS DEFICIENT IN CERTAIN RESPECTS AND PRESENTED  
A COUNTER-DRAFT.

-

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE TONE AND THRUST OF THE DISCUSSION  
WERE DECIDEDLY POSITIVE. ZANTOVSKY STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT  
HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED TO MOVE AHEAD QUICKLY ON THE ISSUE  
ONCE WE CAME BACK WITH NEW LANGUAGE. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)  
PRAGUE 2566, 9/8.) KISSINGER

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